



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

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February 3, 2009

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title.

## STATE RESOURCES FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS FOR REENTRY

On November 18, 2008, your Board instructed this Office to work with the Director of Public Health and the State of California to examine the feasibility of the State assisting Los Angeles County with resources, within the current financial constraints facing the State and the County, to increase public health resources due to the substantial number of people returning to the County upon release from State correctional institutions. Your Board requested a report back within 60 days with any findings and recommendations.

The Department of Public Health (DPH), in consultation with this Office, has determined that the current State budget crisis makes it unlikely that the State is able to provide any additional public health resources to address the reentry impact. However, DPH has solicited, and will continue to solicit, the State for resources to mitigate cuts to existing services that may directly or indirectly serve this growing population. This Office is actively opposing the Governor's proposed deferral of payment for those services.

DPH's Alcohol and Drug Program Administration (ADPA) will continue, in its planning process, to assess the needs of this population and collaborate with community partners on closing gaps in access to health care and other public health services for parolees, to the extent it can within its existing resources. It will also determine whether

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or not additional resources can be identified internally to address these needs as they continue to seek State funding. In December 2008, ADPA participated in a RAND Corporation meeting which highlighted findings of a study, "Using Geographic Information Systems to Understand Prisoner Reentry Challenges in California: Public Health Implications." The findings for Los Angeles County indicated that the geographic distribution of parolees closely matched the geographic distribution of poverty, high unemployment, lower educational attainment, and minority populations. ADPA will use these findings to better target services to reentry populations.

During the past year, ADPA, in collaboration with the Regional Congregations and Neighborhood Organizations Training Center and others, has explored public health issues related to State prisoners paroled to California communities. DPH will continue to keep your Board updated on the progress of these projects and opportunities to use the findings for public health planning purposes.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Tami Omoto-Frias at (213) 893-9741 or [tomoto-frias@ceo.lacounty.gov](mailto:tomoto-frias@ceo.lacounty.gov).

WTF:SRH:SAS  
MLM:TOF:yb

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Director and Health Officer, Department of Public Health

020309\_HMHS\_MBS\_DPH Reentry